

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, and 21. The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A data processing apparatus that is adapted to communicate data through a network to each of a plurality of computers and a plurality of peripheral devices connected to the network, comprising:

display means for displaying the plurality of computers and the plurality of peripheral devices as symbol information on a virtual system display screen;

first discriminating means for discriminating, from the plurality of computers, a licensor computer having a license server function for issuing a predetermined license to at least one of said data processing apparatus and any other of the plurality of computers; and

first control means for controlling the licensor computer discriminated by said first discriminating means such that the licensor computer may be identified from other devices on the virtual system display screen.

Claim 2 (previously presented): An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

second discriminating means for discriminating, from the plurality of computers, licensee computers to which the predetermined license has been issued from the licensor computer discriminated by said first discriminating means; and

second control means for controlling the licensee computers discriminated by said second discriminating means such that the licensee computers may be identified from other devices on the virtual system display screen.

Claim 3 (previously presented): An apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

third discriminating means for discriminating, from the plurality of computers, a server device having an image input server function which may be used by said data processing apparatus;

third control means for controlling the server device discriminated by said third discriminating means such that the server device may be identified from other devices on the virtual system display screen;

selecting means for selecting a symbol on the virtual system display screen; and

service supplying means for supplying a common service to each of the licensee computers to which the predetermined license has been issued from the licensor computer, when

the licensor computer and the server device have been selected by said selecting means.

Claim 4 (previously presented): An apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the common service which is supplied by said service supplying means includes a distribution service for distributing a same data to each of the licensee computers.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A data processing apparatus that is adapted to communicate data through a network to each of a plurality of computers and a plurality of peripheral devices connected to the network, comprising:

display means for displaying the plurality of computers and the plurality of peripheral devices on a virtual system display screen;

first discriminating means for discriminating, from the plurality of computers, a licensor computer having a license server function for issuing a license to at least one of said data processing apparatus and any other of the plurality of computers; and

first control means for controlling the licensor computer discriminated by said first discriminating means such that the licensor computer may be identified from other devices on the virtual system display screen.

Claim 6 (previously presented): An apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising:

second discriminating means for discriminating licensee computers, from the plurality of computers, to which the license has been issued from said licensor computer discriminated by said first discriminating means; and

second control means for controlling the licensee computers discriminated by said second discriminating means such that the licensee computers may be identified from other devices on the virtual system display screen.

Claim 7 (previously presented): An apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising:

third discriminating means for discriminating, from the plurality of computers, a server device having an image input server function which may be used by said data processing apparatus;

third control means for controlling the server device discriminated by said third discriminating means such that the server device may be identified from other devices on the virtual system display screen;

selecting means for selecting a symbol on the virtual system display screen; and

service supplying means for supplying a common service to each of the licensee computers to which the license has been issued from the licensor computer, when the licensor computer and the server device have been selected by said selecting means.

Claim 8 (previously presented): An apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the common service which is supplied by said service supplying means includes a distribution service for distributing a same data to each of the licensee computers.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A data processing method in a data processing apparatus that is adapted to communicate data through a network to each of a plurality of computers and a plurality of peripheral devices connected to the network, comprising:

a display step of displaying the plurality of computers and the plurality of peripheral devices as symbol information on a virtual system display screen;

a first discriminating step of discriminating, from the plurality of computers, a licensor computer having a license server function for issuing a predetermined license to at least one of the data processing apparatus and any other of the plurality of computers; and

a first control step of controlling the licensor computer discriminated in said first discriminating step such that the licensor computer may be identified from other devices on the

virtual system display screen.

Claim 10 (previously presented): A method according to claim 9, further comprising:

a second discriminating step of discriminating, from the plurality of computers, licensee computers to which the predetermined license has been issued from the licensor computer discriminated in said first discriminating step; and

a second control step of controlling the licensee computers discriminated in said second discriminating step such that the licensee computers may be identified from other devices on the virtual system display screen.

Claim 11 (previously presented): A method according to claim 10, further comprising:

a third discriminating step of discriminating, from the plurality of computers, a server device having an image input server function which may be used by the data processing apparatus;

a third control step of controlling the server device discriminated in said third discriminating step such that the server device may be identified from other devices on the virtual

system display screen;

a selecting step of selecting a symbol on the virtual system display screen; and

a service supplying step of supplying a common service to each of the licensee computers to which the predetermined license has been issued from the licensor computer, when the licensor computer and the server device have been selected in said selecting step.

Claim 12 (previously presented): A method according to claim 11, wherein the common service which is supplied in said service supplying step includes a distribution service for distributing a same data to each of the licensee computers.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A data processing method in a data processing apparatus that is adapted to communicate data through a network to each of a plurality of computers and a plurality of peripheral devices connected to the network, comprising:

a display step of displaying the plurality of computers and the plurality of peripheral devices on a virtual system display screen;

a first discriminating step of discriminating, from the plurality of computers, a licensor computer having a license server function for issuing a license to at least one of the data processing apparatus and any other of the plurality of computers; and

a first control step of controlling the licenser computer discriminated in said first discriminating step such that the licenser computer may be identified from other devices on the virtual system display screen.

Claim 14 (previously presented): A method according to claim 13, further comprising:

a second discriminating step of discriminating, from the plurality of computers, licensee computers to which the license has been issued from the licenser computer discriminated in said first discriminating step; and

a second control step of controlling the licensee computers discriminated in said second discriminating step such that the licensee computers may be identified from other devices on the virtual system display screen.

Claim 15 (previously presented): A method according to claim 14, further comprising:

a third discriminating step of discriminating, from the plurality of computers, a server device having an image input server function which may be used by the data processing apparatus;

a third control step of controlling the server device discriminated in said third discriminating step such that the server device may be identified from other devices on the virtual system display screen;

a selecting step of selecting a symbol on the virtual system display screen; and

a service supplying step of supplying a common service to each of the licensee computers to which the license has been issued from the licensor computer, when the licensor computer and the server device have been selected in said selecting step.

Claim 16 (previously presented): A method according to claim 15, wherein the common service which is supplied in said service supplying step includes a distribution service for distributing a same data to each of the licensee computers.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A computer-readable storage medium storing a computer program which may be executed by a computer of a data processing apparatus that is adapted to communicate data through a network to each of a plurality of computers and a plurality of peripheral devices connected to the network, wherein the computer program implements a data processing method of the data processing apparatus, the method comprising:

a display step of displaying the plurality of computers and the plurality of

peripheral devices as symbol information on a virtual system display screen;

a first discriminating step of discriminating, from the plurality of computers, a licenser computer having a license server function for issuing a predetermined license to at least one of the data processing apparatus and any other of the plurality of computers; and

a first control step of controlling the licenser computer discriminated in said first discriminating step such that the licenser computer may be identified from other devices on the virtual system display screen.

Claim 18 (previously presented): A medium according to claim 17, wherein the method further comprises:

a second discriminating step of discriminating, from the plurality of computers, licensee computers to which the predetermined license has been issued from the licenser computer discriminated in said first discriminating step; and

a second control step of controlling the licensee computers discriminated in said second discriminating step such that the licensee computers may be identified from other devices on the virtual system display screen.

Claim 19 (previously presented): A medium according to claim 18, wherein the

method further comprises:

a third discriminating step of discriminating, from the plurality of computers, a server device having an image input server function which may be used by the data processing apparatus;

a third control step of controlling the server device discriminated in said third discriminating step such that the server device may be identified from other devices on the virtual system display screen;

a selecting step of selecting a symbol on the virtual system display screen; and

a service supplying step of supplying a common service to each of the licensee computers to which the predetermined license has been issued from the licensor computer, when the licensor computer and the server device have been selected in said selecting step.

Claim 20 (previously presented): A medium according to claim 19, wherein the common service which is supplied in said service supplying step includes a distribution service for distributing a same data to each of the licensee computers.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A computer-readable storage medium storing a computer program which may be executed by a computer of a data processing apparatus that is

adapted to communicate data through a network to each of a plurality of computers and a plurality of peripheral devices connected to the network, wherein the computer program implements a data processing method of the data processing apparatus, the method comprising:

a display step of displaying the plurality of computers and the plurality of peripheral devices on a virtual system display screen;

a first discriminating step of discriminating, from the plurality of computers, a licenser computer having a license server function for issuing a license to at least one of the data processing apparatus and any other of the plurality of computers; and

a first control step of controlling the licenser computer discriminated in said first discriminating step such that the licenser computer may be identified from other devices on the virtual system display screen.

Claim 22 (previously presented): A medium according to claim 21, wherein the method further comprises:

a second discriminating step of discriminating, from the plurality of computers, licensee computers to which the license has been issued from the licenser computer discriminated in said first discriminating step; and

a second control step of controlling the licensee computers discriminated in said

second discriminating step such that the licensee computers may be identified from other devices on the virtual system display screen.

Claim 23 (previously presented): A medium according to claim 22, wherein the method further comprises:

a third discriminating step of discriminating, from the plurality of computers, a server device having an image input server function which may be used by the data processing apparatus;

a third control step of controlling the server device discriminated in said third discriminating step such that the server device may be identified from other devices on the virtual system display screen;

a selecting step of selecting a symbol on the virtual system display screen; and

a service supplying step of supplying a common service to each of the licensee computers to which the license has been issued from the licensor computer, when the licensor computer and the server device have been selected in said selecting step.

Claim 24 (previously presented): A medium according to claim 23, wherein the common service which is supplied in said service supplying step includes a distribution service for distributing a same data to each of the licensee computers.